

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A chemically synthesized double stranded short interfering nucleic acid (siRNA) molecule comprising a sense strand and an antisense strand, wherein:
 - a. each strand of said ~~double-stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule is about 18 to about 27 nucleotides in length;
 - b. the antisense strand of said ~~double-stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule comprises nucleotide sequence that is complementary to a cholinergic receptor muscarinic 3 (CHRM3) nucleotide sequence comprising SEQ ID NO: 305; and the sense strand is complementary to the antisense strand; and
 - c. one or more pyrimidine nucleotides present one or both strands of said double stranded nucleic acid siRNA molecule comprises at least one chemically modified nucleotide in said sense strand and said antisense strand of said double stranded nucleic acid molecule is a 2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro pyrimidine nucleotide.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) The ~~double-stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule of claim 1, wherein said ~~double-stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule comprises one or more ribonucleotides.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule of claim 1, wherein said sense strand is connected to the antisense strand via a linker molecule.
11. (Currently Amended) The ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule of claim 10, wherein said linker molecule is a polynucleotide linker.
12. (Currently Amended) The ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule of claim 10, wherein said linker molecule is a non-nucleotide linker.
13. (Canceled)
14. (Currently Amended) The ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule of claim 1, wherein one or more purine nucleotides present in the sense strand are 2'-deoxy purine nucleotides.
15. (Canceled)
16. (Currently Amended) The ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule of claim 1, wherein the sense strand includes a terminal cap moiety at the 5'-end, the 3'-end, or both of the 5' and 3' ends of the sense strand.
17. (Currently Amended) The ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule of claim 16, wherein said terminal cap moiety is an inverted deoxy abasic moiety.
18. (Canceled)
19. (Currently Amended) The ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule of claim 1, wherein one or more purine nucleotides present in the antisense strand are 2'-O-methyl purine nucleotides.
20. (Currently Amended) The ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule of claim 1, wherein one or more purine nucleotides present in the antisense strand are 2'-deoxy-purine nucleotides.
21. (Currently Amended) The ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule of claim 1, wherein the antisense strand comprises a terminal phosphorothioate internucleotide linkage at the 3' end of the antisense strand.
22. (Canceled)

- 23. (Canceled)
- 24. (Canceled)
- 25. (Canceled)
- 26. (Canceled)
- 27. (Canceled)
- 28. (Canceled)
- 29. (Canceled)
- 30. (Currently Amended) The ~~double-stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule of claim 1, wherein the 5'-end of the antisense strand includes a terminal phosphate group.
- 31. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising the ~~double-stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule of claim 1 in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.